

## The Butler Weekly Times

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### MORE POWER WANTED.

Governor Hadley's public utilities bill, introduced in the House by Representative Wade, and in the Senate by Senator McDavid, is a formidable document, containing about 30,000 words and affects every public utility in Missouri. It creates "a public service commission, which is invested with authority to supervise and regulate every public utility in the state" and given the proper power and authority to carry out its provisions. After naming the generally known utilities, it provides that the commission shall have domination over "all business impressed with public use or which the public must use in buying and selling." The commission is to be composed of five members at \$3,500 per year, to be appointed by the governor, not more than three of one political party. The sober, sensible people of the state stood aghast at Governor Folk's demand for a state exercise commissioner, as giving too much power to the governor; what will those same people think of this demand by a Republican governor that he be given the authority to appoint a commission to control absolutely every public utility in the state. The vast possibilities of such stupendous power placed in the hands of one man can scarcely be estimated. Of course, our Republican governor had no intention of trusting the people to select the men on whom this great power is to be conferred. He must select them himself, they are to be his creatures, responsible to him for their commissions and ready to do his bidding. The utilities great and small throughout the state to be controlled and supervised must know that the governor is the power behind the throne. We have no doubt that the Republican house will servilely do the governor's bidding and pass the bill, but we do not believe that it will get a single Democratic vote in the Senate, notwithstanding the governor's "smooth" methods of inducing a Democratic senator to introduce it.

### EXTRAVAGANT CRAZE.

Retrenchment and reform are of the principal tenets of the Democratic faith. Democratic administrations in Missouri have practiced this for nearly forty years, and reduced the state levy from 50 cents to 17 cents while paying off an enormous bonded debt left as an heritage by the last Republican administration following the war. Every Democratic governor from Woodson down to and including Folk have tried to keep public expenses to a minimum, while burdening the people as little as possible with taxation. That appears to be all changed now and the first Republican governor since 1870, before getting his seat fairly warm, begins the agitation for increased assessments and a demand for more money. These Republican administrations come high, as most great luxuries, but apparently it is what the people want. The cry for more money and extravagance has become almost a craze, so much so that when Senator Stone raised a warning against such a trend, Republican papers and their allies the Kansas City Star and Post-Dispatch, abused him for a mossback. It would be much better for the tax payer if we had more such mossbacks in Missouri right now.

The expected has happened. Joseph G. Cannon has been re-elected speaker of the House of Representatives and the old rules were adopted with a few minor changes. But the Democrats, under the leadership of Champ Clark and the insurgent Republicans, 28 strong, led by Murdock of Kansas, made a magnificent fight against the old gag rules that have permitted "Uncle Joe" to control legislation absolutely, to punish and reward members at will, and would have won but for the traitorous defection of New York Tammany Democrats and a few from southern states that have special interests in their districts that were promised protection by the speaker. Ollie James, the eloquent and gifted congressman from Kentucky, who was Bryan's spokesman at the Denver convention, spoke in glowing terms of Champ Clark's management and prophesied that his leadership would win for him the next Democratic nomination for President.

It is a cold day when the Missouri editor is not cordially invited to dig up a dollar for a dinner in honor of some distinguished citizen, arranged by a little coterie of satellites whose political fortunes are linked with those of the object of their adulation. But the country editors are getting wise on these feasts. They can get much better dinners at home for much less and know they are wanted merely to lend prestige to the event. Here's how the homespun editor of the Shelby Torchlight sent regrets to a recent St. Louis dinner.

But this thing of these city fellows organizing an affair of this kind and inviting a one galled editor to pay out several dollars railroad fare to get to and from the thing, pay hotel bill while there and a dollar to get into their meetin' after landing in the city, is a little too much for this "cousin Rube" at this time. Bring your ban just around and we'll take a squint at it.—Clinton Democrat.

A large majority of members of the Legislature of both parties would dodge the prohibition submission question if they could, but they can't and will have to be put on record. It is a matter of small importance anyhow, no matter what their action, as the Prohibitionists have a method through the late constitutional amendment, the initiative and referendum, by which they can force a submission. So there is little doubt that the voters of Missouri will have a chance to vote on constitutional prohibition at the next general election, if not before. The Anti-Saloon league organization so far is opposing state wide prohibition, but favoring local option with more stringent enforcement laws.

Prof. Porter M. Allison, Democratic nominee for County Superintendent of Schoole, was in Butler Saturday on his way home from a week's canvass in the southwest part of the county. Prof. Allison said he met the greatest encouragement everywhere he went, the Democrats all in line and promise to turn out to the school elections. He said if there is any disaffection in the party's ranks anywhere he failed to locate it. Prof. Allison is a strong school man, enthusiastic in the work and will make Bates county a splendid superintendency. Every Democrat interested in the success of the schools should turn out and make Prof. Allison's victory pronounced.

The legislature passed its first bill last week, establishing school supervision in all the counties of the state which was promptly signed by the governor. This bill, or similar ones, have been before every legislature for the past twenty years. It has been faithfully championed by the teachers of the state and to them is largely due its final adoption. About twenty-five counties in the state, including Bates is already under county supervision, the only effect the new law will have on this county will be to increase the Superintendent's salary from \$850 to \$1400, \$400 of which will be paid by the state.

There is little doubt that the legislature will re-enact the old Walmesley game law, with minor amendments. The great majority by which it was sent to engrossment leaves little doubt on that score. The present game law has been an abject failure, so far as preserving the wild game of the state from ruthless slaughter and, if continued, ultimate extinction.

Speaking of the contemplated increase in taxation the Kansas City Star refers grandiloquently to "rich and imperial Missouri." Who made it "rich and imperial" if it was not the men most bitterly denounced and ridiculed by the Star and the other reformers, the men who took charge when 8 per cent state bonds were hawked around at a discount, floated a 3 per cent bond issue at par, reduced taxation from 50 cents on the \$100 to 17 cents on the \$100, set aside nearly one-third of that for school purposes and at the same time wiped out the state debt? Missouri is "rich and imperial," made so by the sterling honesty and strict economy of the "Old Guard," but it will not take the reformers very long to reduce her again to poverty and burdened with debt.—Ozceola Democrat.

"The Booster" claims that the Katy at Rockville has been enabled to buy a new baggage wagon, solely as a result of advertising in that medium. Keep your nerve working, Bro. Bosard.

### Senator Stone of Missouri

Is one of the men who is rather careful in having the States take care of their own affairs and not leave too much to the general government. Speaking of the proposition to establish a bureau of mines, which has been urged on account of the necessity for protecting miners, Senator Stone said:

"I am not opposed to any laws designed for the protection of the lives of men engaged in the actual work of mining. It seems to me, however, that that is a business which could well be left to the States

and better done by the States than by the general government. There is a tendency toward extravagance and wasteful expenditure of public revenue in the conduct of the government, municipal, State and national. I said something like this before the Legislature of Missouri some time ago and was criticised for it. My term ended a little more than a decade ago. Expenditures incident to the administration of the public affairs of Missouri have practically doubled and a little more in that time and I am quite sure that the expenditures in the cities have doubled in that period. We all know that the expenditures of the National

Government have doubled in that time. It seems to me that the thoughts of men ought now to be devoted to how we can administer good government at less expense to the people."

### The Commoner's Tribute.

The last issue of Mr. Bryan's Commoner had the following notice of a late esteemed Butler citizen:

"John W. Roesson died at his home in Butler, Mo., Tuesday morning, February 2, at the age of ninety-two years. C. W. Ray, of Butler, referring to his fine character, says: Mr.

Roesson was a native of Virginia, was born in Culpepper county September 22, 1817, came to Callaway county, Missouri, in 1866, located in Bates county in 1889. He became a member of the Methodist church in 1839. His christian character will long be felt by those who knew him. To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly before God, was his motto. He was a man of strong conviction, of splendid intelligence, and unwavering devotion to that which he believed right. He was personally acquainted with Mr. Bryan, and paid his last tribute of respect, as a Democrat, by voting for him at the last election."

## A Brilliant Panorama of New Spring Fashions Now Passing in Review

**M**ONTHS of effort toward assembling the best merchandise for selling at the lowest prices which can buy it have culminated in the surpassing Spring Exhibits now on view at this store. The general verdict is that we have excelled former achievements at all points—that varieties were never so large, styles so beautiful or values so great.

With our hands on the pulse of demand and our eyes alert to avoid the "freakish" and the fads that die in a day, we have assembled only such styles as will be worn by refined, well-dressed women the season through. That is our idea of our duty to our customers—but not all of it.

### We do Not Overlook Prices

It's one thing to choose the very latest, most elegant and correct styles and another to buy them and sell them so that they may be within reach of the modest purse. Such styles have we bought—such prices are marked on them. Comparison proves AND COMPARISON IS ALL WE ASK.



### New tailored Suits

#### New Styles in Women's Suits

Come greet the new suits and try to resist them! Wonderfully charming are the colors—soft, subdued and exquisite—smoke taupe stone green, rose, wisteria. Full of grace are styles—Coats are both long and medium, mostly hipless models—skirts are long again—But why should we attempt to TELL you of what you are invited to see! There's an added source of delight in the prices.

**\$12 to \$27.98**

### New and Winning Waists

A most extraordinary waist showing—s m a r t tailored models, dressy silk waists and fluffy, frilly "lingeries." Try to pick the ONE you like best and you'll probably wind up by wanting a half dozen.

**68c, 98c, \$1.23, \$1.48, \$1.98, \$2.23 and up**



### Beautiful Heaps of New Wash Goods

The very spirit of spring is held captive in the lovely new cottons that we have to show you. Like summer cloud-banks tinted with a rainbow. A wonderful profusion of new weaves, colors and designs. Great values at

**10c, 15c, 19c, 25c, 35c, 39c and 48c**

### And the White Goods--

Fresh, crisp, immaculate—waiting to be made up into the daintiest of waists and dresses. 'T would be a pity were the snowy mounds lessened before you see and choose from them. Prices

**10c, 12c, 15c, 19c, 25c, 35c and up.**



### New Oxfords

Oxblood, Tans, Patent Leather, Vici Kid,

**In all the new shapes**

### Ready-to-Wear Hats

Don't fail to see the new lines of ready-to-wear hats.

A beautiful collection of the

**Very Latest Styles At Marvelously Low Prices.**

Every one can afford to buy a new hat for Easter at the price we are selling them.



**Come to our store for the newest and best in Ladies' Ready-to-Wear and Dry Goods. Something new coming all the time.**

New Dress Goods.....50c, 65c and 98c  
New Silks.....35c, 39c and 50c

**New embroideries—BIG BARGAINS**

**NEW HAND BAGS, BELTS AND BUCKLES**

New Table Linens, 75c quality.....65c  
New Kimona Goods, 23c quality.....15c

New Lingerie Waist fronts.....63c to 98c

**THE STORE  
for  
BARGAINS**

**Hill's Cash Store**

**BUTLER  
MISSOURI.**